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No Other Town in the World the Size of Grants Pass Has a Paper With Full Leased Wire Telegraph Service.

NO WORD OF U.S. TROOPS IN MEXICO

Pershing's Command, on the Hunt for Villa, Has Not Been Heard From, Though Generally Believed Safe

San Antonio, Mar. 22.—"I believe General Pershing has advanced so rapidly that he is beyond any point from which he may communicate by wireless with Columbus," declared Major-General Funston today.

"I have no fear for the safety of the American column," he added, "although now it must be in the vicinity of the spot where Francisco Villa was last reported."

Captain Chandler, wireless expert, was sent to Columbus to investigate the radio difficulties. The field telegraph between Columbus and South Ascension has been reported cut in many places, according to headquarters statements.

General Pershing has sufficient men to fight any Villista bands that may be encountered, officers believe. Headquarters recommended that the war department purchase more auto tractor wireless equipments, so as to minimize danger of the forces being lost track of.

At army headquarters it was stated that Carranzistas were not known to be actively aiding the Americans at any point, though they were supposed to be co-operating. Mexicans are not given any information regarding the whereabouts of Carranzista troops. The rumored desertion of 2,000 constitutionalist troops were not confirmed at Funston's office.

Funston said he had no word with regard to operations at Casas Grandes, El Valle or south of Galeana since Sunday, though efforts had been made to communicate with the troops there.

The Twenty-fourth infantry, colored troops, has been ordered to Columbus from Fort D. A. Russell. Two of its battalions will enter Mexico to guard lines of communications, while the third battalion is to patrol the border.

Reports that two army aviators were missing between Columbus and Casas Grandes were confirmed. The aviation corps' troubles are disturbing headquarters. Recently, new motors, supposedly capable, were installed in the military planes.

SENATOR LAFOLLETTE WINS IN N. DAKOTA PRIMARIES

Bismarck, N. D., Mar. 22.—Senator LaFollette defeated Henry D. Estabrook in the presidential primaries of North Dakota, according to early returns today. It appeared that LaFollette got the progressive-republican vote. Estabrook failed to obtain the "old guard" ballot.

VOLUNTEERS MAY JOIN VILLA HUNT

Washington, Mar. 22.—Senator Sherman introduced a resolution today authorizing President Wilson to call 50,000 volunteers for service in Mexico. He asked that it be passed immediately.

Sherman declared developments indicated the army was not prepared to pursue Villa. His resolution stipulated that the volunteers be used only for punitive purposes, not for intervention, and that they would have to be mustered out when Villa was captured or killed.

PATROLS SEARCH FOR TWO MISSING U. S. AIR SCOUTS

Columbus, N. M., Mar. 22.—Cavalry patrols are searching the desolate country between here and Casas Grandes for trace of Lieut. Robert H. Willis and Lieut. Edgar S. Gorell, who left Columbus flying in military aeroplanes for Casas Grandes last Sunday and failed to arrive there. It is supposed they experienced trouble and were forced to descend in Chihuahua desert or some equally desolate region. As far as known, the men had only three days' rations and two canteens of water between them.

Lieut. T. S. Bowen, whose nose was broken when his aeroplane tumbled 50 feet, was recovering today.

It was reported that army men had asked General Gavira to cooperate in a search for the missing airmen. The report said he instructed the Carranza garrison at Chihuahua to look out for them.

Passengers arriving from Casas Grandes bound for El Paso said the peons fell on their knees in prayer and then ran pell mell toward the hills at sight of the first aeroplane ever beheld in Casa Grandes district. Later when their fears were overcome, they crowded around to inspect it.

SPOKANE JOY RIDE PUTS 7 IN HOSPITAL

Spokane, Mar. 22.—Seven were injured, three seriously, early today when an automobile, returning from a roadhouse party, plunged off the south end of the Monroe street bridge.

The seriously injured are: John Hindle, assistant cashier of the Auditorium theater, fractured skull; he is unconscious.

Cassie Baldwin, actress, six-inch gash across her forehead and internal injuries.

Anna Schaffer, actress, head badly cut.

SICKNESS THINS RANKS IN MEXICO

El Paso, Mar. 22.—Sickness is thinning the American ranks in Mexico.

Seven soldiers arrived here for treatment today. They said Americans are dropping from pneumonia and dysentery. By day they suffered from intense heat. At night they almost freeze. This, say the arrivals, has produced a pneumonia epidemic of serious proportions.

A week's hard marching on meagre rations, following months of hearty eating in camp, caused many to fall by the wayside. The more serious cases are being sent back to the border.

Private R. J. Harding, Company A, Sixteenth infantry, said pneumonia was the most prevalent complaint.

When dysentery was discovered, the army surgeons increased their precautions against soldiers drinking impure water. Sanitation work was redoubled. Dysentery is one of the greatest terrors of campaigning, and bad army water is held to be its principal cause. Boiling drinking water is the commonest precaution.

ABANDON PLAN TO SEND WORKMEN INTO MEXICO

Douglas, Ariz., Mar. 22.—Plans to send American workmen back to the Montezuma Copper company's mines below Nacozari were abandoned temporarily today. Officials said they merely wanted to be on the safe side and watch developments in Sonora and Chihuahua before sending their men to work.

4 LIVES LOST IN EASTERN STORM

Gale Sweeps Three States, and Besides a Number of Deaths, There Is Reported a Great Loss in Property

Indianapolis, Mar. 22.—Blizzards and gales cost at least four lives and did property damage which may mount well into the thousands in Illinois, Michigan and Indiana today.

W. J. Ricketts was killed at Logansport when the roof of a broom factory was ripped away, crashing into his house.

At Marion, R. Williams was killed as he slept. The wind sent bricks from a wrecked chimney through the roof of his farmhouse. His wife was badly injured.

A girl, Gertrude Alspach, aged 4, was killed near Montpelier, where houses and churches were unroofed.

The body of James Rector was found buried in the wreckage of his home at Monon.

A Clover Lead railroad train was blown from the track near Marion, two men being so severely hurt they were taken to the hospital. Many others narrowly escaped.

Trains and interurban cars were delayed at Detroit by the worst blizzard in several years.

Kankakee, Ill., Mar. 22.—Beaver-ville, near here, was afire in eight places this afternoon as a result of a gale and electrical storm, following a blizzard. Eight persons were hurt, four seriously.

HEAVIEST SNOW STORM IN YEARS HITS DETROIT

Detroit, Mich., Mar. 22.—Train and interurban cars were delayed today by one of the heaviest snow storms in years.

PRAIRIE FIRE SWEEPS KANSAS COUNTIES

Wichita, Kas., Mar. 22.—Prairie fires are sweeping 10 Kansas counties today. Hundreds of miles of grass, a few farm buildings and some livestock have been burned. No casualties were reported.

10,000 SOLDIERS GUARD 2000 MILES OF BORDER BETWEEN U. S. AND MEXICO

Douglas, Ariz., Mar. 22.—Scattered along the border, ready at five minutes notice to rush protection to a million Americans, is the finest but smallest army in the world.

Where 10,000 soldiers hold five miles of front in northern France, slightly more than that number guard 2,000 miles which separates the United States from Mexico.

Visitors at Douglas and other frontier places where troops have been mobilized since the Columbus affair continually remark upon the personnel and "esprit de corps" of the "new" U. S. army.

There has been no increase in the number of higher officers, but the non-commissioned officers have been uniformed to resemble their superiors more. Sergeants and corporals, under the new regulations, wear leather puttees, boots and breeches, which only the trained eye can distinguish from commissioned officers' garb.

The troops are clean cut, clean shaven, almost to the extreme, and except when doing only the most

BIG ACREAGE OF BEETS AT SUTHERLIN

Farmers Take Kindly to New Industry, and 8 Seeders, With Seed, Are Ordered by the Field Superintendent

A hurry-up call came to the Oregon-Utah Sugar company Tuesday from F. S. Bramwell, at Sutherlin, in Douglas county, for eight seeders and beet seed to be shipped to that point. Excellent success is being met in that district in the signing up of acreage, and it is expected that every acre that the Modocites failed to meet their obligations upon will be covered with two acres by the Umpqua valley farmers. The beets grown in the Sutherlin district this season are to be shipped to the Grants Pass factory, but it seems assured that next year a factory will be built there, this having been agreed to by the sugar company if sufficient acreage is signed.

The seeding of beets throughout the Rogue valley is now progressing, and will be pressed as rapidly as possible till the crop is all in the ground. The river bottom soils, and some of the bench lands are in excellent condition for seeding, though the showers of the past few days have retarded the work somewhat. Tracts in the heavier soils are not all yet ready for work, and seeding will no doubt be continued well through April.

Work upon the factory is being crowded now with all possible speed, and more materials are arriving daily, so that the erection of the structures will progress without delay for steel, etc.

MAY ORDER 3RD CAVALRY INTO MEXICAN CAMPAIGN

Douglas, Ariz., Mar. 22.—Portions of the Third cavalry may be ordered from Douglas to furnish the extra protection Major-General Funston demanded for Brigadier-General Pershing's lines of communication, it was reported today.

One infantry brigade was deemed sufficient protection for Douglas. Squadrons of cavalry were carefully drilled and put through unusual practice paces today, evidently in preparation for a move.

10,000 SOLDIERS GUARD 2000 MILES OF BORDER BETWEEN U. S. AND MEXICO

arduous fatigue duty, uniforms are always pressed and look "new."

Travelers who have seen the fighting men of Europe, passing through camps of the "new" army, place it on a par, if not above, any army now at war. But every one of these observers remark upon the insignificance of the force.

"A wonderful machine," they say, "but hopelessly small."

Residents of these border places take a similar view of the situation. They appreciate the fighting quality of the men, but have a fear of Mexico which an adequate army, they say, would alleviate.

Judge D. A. Richardson, legal representative for the de facto government of Mexico, an American who learned the Mexican language before he mastered English, declared that it took him 40 years to learn the Mexican character, to find only when war came that he did not know it all. "I am afraid for our boys down there," he said, "when the first blood is shed Americans also will learn the Mexican character."

GIVE LAND GRANT COUNTIES MORE O. & C. FUND CASH

Washington, Mar. 22.—Amendment of the Chamberlain bill dividing the proceeds of timber sales from the Oregon-California railroad lands was agreed to this afternoon by a sub-committee of the house lands committee.

The amendment proposed to give 40 per cent of these proceeds to the land grant counties, 10 per cent to the Oregon school fund, 40 per cent to the general reclamation fund, and 10 per cent for the United States treasury to cover expenses of administration.

KUROPATKIN STILL HAMMERING AT GERMANS

Berlin, Mar. 22.—General Kuropatkin's Russians continued their assaults south and southeast of Riga today, it was officially announced. The attacks were repulsed heavily.

More trenches in Avocourt woods have been captured by Germans, the announcement said.

NO FOUNDATION FOR PEACE TALK

Washington, Mar. 22.—Ambassador Gerard is not remaining in Berlin during his vacation time to await Germany's peace proposals, according to a White House statement issued today.

Through Secretary Tumulty, the president authorized denials of newspaper stories making that assertion. "There is no justification," said the statement, "for that inference being drawn."

The denial referred to dispatches received by the New York Evening Post.

The state department issued an announcement, saying:

"Any statement that Germany has intimated or desired America to act as mediator in peace negotiations, or has in any way suggested that this government take up the matter with other powers, is absolutely without foundation. The department has no information that Germany is preparing to make a definite move toward peace."

Ambassador von Bernstorff conferred with Counsellor Polk of the state department for 15 minutes. They discussed the embargo on German trade and the problem of America getting dyestuffs. It is understood that peace was not mentioned. It was considered significant that Imperial Chancellor von Bethmann-Hollweg did not deny he had asked Gerard to remain at his post for peace reasons. It was plain however, that this government had not officially received German proposals.

GERMAN STEAMER SUNK BY RUSSIAN WARSHIPS

Bucharest, Mar. 22.—Russian warships off Kaliakra, Rumania, Sunday torpedoed and sank the 7,000-ton German steamer Esperanza, bound for Constantinople with a cargo of food. Dispatches said the crew was captured. The Esperanza flew Spanish and Roumanian flags.

WEDDERBURN AGAIN MENACED BY FLOOD

Marshfield, Mar. 22.—The little town of Wedderburn, at the mouth of the Rogue river, again is sliding into the water, and residents have fled to higher ground, according to reports reaching here today. A few weeks ago Wedderburn was similarly threatened. Recent heavy rains have renewed the danger.

10,000 LEFT HOMELESS BY FIRE

Texas City Has Disastrous Conflagration That Kills 3 People and Does Millions of Dollars of Damage

Paris, Texas, Mar. 22.—Three are dead here, 10,000 homeless, and from \$7,000,000 to \$10,000,000 damage has been caused by a fire which devastated two-thirds of the city. The flames were finally extinguished today.

One hundred business blocks were destroyed, including 25 dynamited to check the blaze. Between 1,500 and 2,000 dwellings were burned. Many were injured, some probably fatally.

The dead are John Straub, wealthy realty dealer, an unidentified white man and one negro.

Homeless and destitute families are being relieved by the city. Half the population of Paris is without shelter. Thousands went without breakfast this morning. Urgent appeals for groceries and money have been sent to neighboring cities.

There is not a dry goods store, drug store, hotel or wholesale grocery left in the city. Among the buildings destroyed were two newspaper plants, the court house, post office, telegraph office, high school, three churches, several apartment houses, two hotels and many costly dwellings.

The fire started in the Long Transportation company warehouse and spread with great rapidity to the Paris cotton compress. White thousands fled from their homes, throwing furniture and valuables into the street, the blaze swept over the public square and ate into the northside residence district.

Fire fighting apparatus was rushed from Dallas, Honey Grove, Bonham and from Hugo, Oklahoma. Every citizen was pressed into service. Many bucket brigades were formed. The water supply was none too plentiful, and at midnight the fire had taken all but 15 of the city's 140 business blocks.

FIRE DESTROYING EAST NASHVILLE

Nashville, Tenn., Mar. 22.—Although every available piece of fire fighting apparatus in Nashville and adjoining cities was battling the flames sweeping East Nashville this afternoon, the blaze continued to gain. Governor Tom C. Rye called out state militia to aid the police and firemen.

At 4 p. m. the conflagration showed no signs of abating. Only the Cumberland river, separating the business district from the portion now wrapped in flames, can save the whole city from destruction, it is feared.

Neighboring cities even some distance away are sending engines on special trains, but every hydrant is busy now, and the additional apparatus will be of little use.

Traveling with terrific speed, the flames have already eaten a pathway three blocks wide and a mile long through the heart of the best residence district. Three churches were engulfed by the fire.

Portland, Mar. 22.—George W. Bates, president of the Lumbermen's National bank, and head of the local Clearing House association, died unexpectedly this morning, following an operation for gall stones. He had been prominent in local business circles for many years.